

Further, experience has shown that, except in an unexplained action of the outer half of the tibialis anticus, split-off portions of the leg muscles do not acquire independent functions. Therefore it is incumbent upon us to transplant entire muscles and not parts of them.

Still further, whatever motion obtains at a joint should be under voluntary control. Joint play which cannot be governed is certain to result in the production of a deformity. Where such a loose joint presents, it is best to perform an arthrodesis—to peel off the opposing articular cartilages—and to get an ankylosis of the joint in the most desirable position. The result, as in the seven cases referred to by Dane, will be a useful foot.

Since, when a deformed foot has been held in overcorrection long enough for the stretched muscles to contract, some of them do sometimes reacquire their function, it would seem right, as has been pointed out by Hoffa, to hasten their regeneration by shortening their tendons. This procedure has a two-fold advantage. It hastens the regeneration of whatever muscles will regenerate, and removes or diminishes the tension put upon the freshly implanted muscles.

In closing, permit me to use a word of warning. Your patient's parents may have an idea that, on the removal, six weeks after the operation, of the plaster-of-paris dressings, no further protection will be needed, it will only remain for him to take up his bed and walk. If so, disabuse their minds of the delusion. Only gradually may a return to the unrestricted use of the foot be permitted; first, in a retentive splint, then in a shoe with either a wedged sole or an insole and uprights. And only little by little—an hour at a time—may he be weaned from them.

The principles of the operative treatment then may be summarized in this way:

1. Overcorrect deformity and maintain the overcorrection for a long time.
2. Replace paralyzed muscles, when possible, by muscles which are functionally and anatomically related to them.
3. For each of the four essential motions supply muscular substance which is capable of independent contraction.
4. Get rid by arthrodesis of whatever joint motion you cannot control.
5. Hasten regeneration or at least restoration of function in overstretched muscles and diminish the tension on the transplanted ones, by shortening the tendons of the former.
6. Protect the limb which has been operated upon, with appropriate apparatus, and only gradually permit its unassisted use.

Much of the excellence of your result will depend upon the thoroughness with which the muscles are trained in the exercise of their new functions. This again is a matter demanding the attention of the mother and of the family physician.

In no branch of medicine may the adage, "make haste slowly," be applied more often than to this grim specialty of orthopedics.

CALIFORNIA PURE FOOD COMMISSION NOTES.

By GEORGE H. KRESS, M. D., Los Angeles, Cal.

The recent Del Monte meeting of the Medical Society of the State of California provided for the organization of a State Pure Food Commission to be made up as follows:

I. *A Central Committee* to consist of five members to be appointed by the President of the State Medical Society. (Dr. George H. Evans, the President of the State Society, has appointed this Central Committee as follows: Dr. Fitch C. Mattison of Pasadena, Dr. Langley Porter of San Francisco, Dr. William Snow of Stanford, Dr. Stanley P. Black of Pasadena, and Dr. George H. Kress of Los Angeles.)

II. *An Advisory Committee* to consist of the chairman of the different Pure Food Committees of the County Medical Associations throughout the State of California. (These Pure Food Committees of the County Medical Associations are to be appointed by the presidents of such County Medical Associations, the general plan being that each main branch shall be represented by a committee of three, and that branches in outlying towns and cities are also to have their own representative committees of three. The chairmen of the committees of the outlying towns or cities are also to be members of the County Pure Food Committee of the whole.)

III. *An Associate Membership Committee* consisting of health officers or prominent medical or laymen, who are known to be especially interested in public health work. Such associate members will be appointed by the chairmen of the County Pure Food Committees or when deemed advisable by the chairman of the State Pure Food Commission. (The thought here is to bring to the aid of the commission and local committees all influence possible that would help to bring into being the things for which the commission is supposed to stand.)

It may be of interest to note that the plan of such a State Pure Food Commission arose in the work of a Pure Food Committee of the Pasadena Branch of the Los Angeles County Medical Association. This Pasadena Pure Food Committee sought to obtain for the city of Pasadena, pure milk and pure foods, and as the work progressed, it was seen that to obtain results, it would be necessary to have the co-operation of the Los Angeles authorities, and to that end the Los Angeles County Medical Association provided for the formation of such a Pure Food Committee. Its general make up is as follows:

From the Los Angeles City Branch were appointed the chairman of the entire committee, (Dr. L. M. Powers, the health officer of Los Angeles) and two other members, Dr. Titian Coffey and Dr. George H. Kress.

The Pasadena Branch appointed as its committee Dr. Stanley P. Black, chairman, and Dr. F. C. Mattison, J. H. McBride and E. B. Hoag.

The Pomona Branch appointed Dr. C. G. Toiland, J. K. Swindt, and F. Garcelon.

The Long Beach Branch appointed Drs. A. C. Celbry, E. M. Freeman and J. M. Holden.

From this it is seen that the Los Angeles City Branch has its own particular committee, and each of the adjoining city and town branches has its own committee. The Pure Food Committee of the Los Angeles County Medical Association consists of three Los Angeles city members and the chairmen of the three branch (Pasadena, Pomona, Long Beach) committees.

This is the form of organization that is commended to the County Medical Associations throughout the State as one which will probably give as good results as any. In addition to members appointed as above outlined, associate members, (medical or laymen or women who are interested in public health work) can be appointed. The point to be remembered is this, that in order to obtain results in public health work it is necessary to bring to the aid of such committees the support of the public, and that means that the public must first be educated to see public health needs from the same standpoints as the Pure Food Committees. To bring about this education, it is necessary to secure the co-operation of prominent laymen and club men and women, so that the organizations with which they may be affiliated will give their co-operation and stand behind the Pure Food Commission and committees in their work.

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The Pure Food Commission organized on the evening of May 21, 1907, in the offices of Dr. Kress in Los Angeles, the following members being present: Dr. Mattison of Pasadena, Dr. Snow of Stanford, Dr. Black of Pasadena and Dr. Kress of Los Angeles.

Dr. Mattison stated that the first order of business would be the election of a secretary. Dr. Kress was elected to that office. The evening was spent in a general discussion as to the aims of the commission and the best method of organization. The plan noted in a preceding paragraph was agreed upon as one which would probably lead to the best results. The chairman of the commission stated that the secretary of the State Medical Society had expressed a desire to have a column devoted to the work of the commission set aside in the *STATE JOURNAL*. The secretary of the commission was requested to maintain such a column.

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An appeal is herewith made to the County Medical Associations in California that they take up at once the organization of County Pure Food Committees along the lines above noted. It will not be necessary for the county associations to pass on these matters, the presidents of the county societies, by virtue of the action of the State Society having the power to appoint such local Pure Food Committees without any further motion or action by the county societies. There is, of course, no objection to placing the matter before the county societies as a whole or before the councils. If, however, it is not convenient for the society as a whole or the council to

pass upon this matter at this time, the county presidents are requested to act without further notice, so that the central committee of the State Pure Food Commission may be able to get in touch at once with the men who are to carry on this work in the different counties of the State. The County Pure Food Committees should be appointed in June or July at the latest, if the work is to be in full swing by September or October.

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In this issue of the *STATE JOURNAL* will appear a paper written by the secretary of this commission dealing with the pure milk question of Los Angeles and the attention of the County Pure Food Committees is requested to this article as it explains along what lines the Los Angeles Pure Food Committee worked in order to obtain a supply of pure milk for that city. The Pure Milk question is usually a pertinent one for all cities in the summer months and the Los Angeles method may be of interest elsewhere on this account.

The office of the State Pure Food Commission, to which all correspondence should be sent, will be that of Dr. Fitch Mattison in the Stowell Building, Pasadena, California. Correspondence addressed to any member of the commission, when sent to this address will reach the members for whom intended without delay.

The Central Committee of the State Pure Food Commission hopes the County Pure Food Committees will feel free to call upon it for information or aid at any and all times. The central committee intends to gather all the literature possible bearing on different phases of public health work, and from the ordinances and laws of other cities and States, to work out types of laws and regulations adapted to different California environments.

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Dr. Snow, who is a member of the central committee and who has charge of the department of public health of Stanford University, will spend the next several months in the large cities of the East making a special study of public health activities, and it is his intention to send to the commission full reports of his investigations and data and ordinances relating to the work of the commission.

COUNTY SOCIETIES.

BUTTE COUNTY.

The monthly meeting of Butte County Medical Society was held in the parlors of the Hotel Colonia Saturday evening, May 11th, President B. Caldwell presiding.

The following members were present: Drs. B. Caldwell and O. C. Hawkins of Biggs, L. Q. and L. L. Thompson of Gridley, C. L. Browning, W. E. Dozier, N. T. Enloe and Ella F. Gatchell of Chico.

Drs. Dozier and Hawkins were admitted as members of the Society.

Dr. Osborne of Hamilton City applied for membership and was referred to the Board of Census.

A paper was read by Dr. N. T. Enloe on "The Use of Escharotics in the Treatment of Cutaneous Cancer." The discussion was opened by Dr. C. L. Browning and participated in by other members of